


DOCKET NO. HRT-278

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Andrew H. Hancock
Serial No.: k9/976,216 Art Unit: 3732
Filed : October 12, 2001 Examiner: E.C. Robert
For : APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR OFF-PUMP CARDIAC SURGERY
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted
to the Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306 on January 21, 2005

 1/21/05

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT THEREFOR

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) petition(s) the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated July 21, 2004 for three(3) months(from October 21, 2004 to January 21, 2005. An Amendment responding to the aforesaid Office Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/HRT-278/BST in the name of Johnson & Johnson for the cost of filing this Petition. Three copies of this Petition are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


Brian S. Tomko
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Attorney for Applicant(s)

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DATE: January 21, 2005